

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DHA-05 ACDA-12 EB-08  
OMB-01 /108 W  
-----125013 031036Z /13

R 030655Z NOV 77  
FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6889  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMCONSUL DURBAN  
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L JOHANNESBURG 2913

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PINS, SF  
SUBJECT: FURTHER COMMENT ON SSRC STRATEGIES IN WAKE OF OCTOBER 19

REF: (A) JOHANNESBURG 2817, (B) JOHANNESBURG 2809

1. A MEMBER OF SSRC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (MAZIBUKO), HAVING JUST RETURNED FROM RECRUITING MISSION TO KWA THEMA (60 KILOMETERS FROM JOHANNESBURG), VISITED POLOFF TO DISCUSS FUTURE SSRC INITIATIVES. HIS COMMENTS, IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH SSRC LEADERSHIP (REF A), GIVE GOOD IDEA OF DIRECTIONS OF MILITANT BLACK LEADERSHIP IN WAKE OF OCTOBER 19 BANNINGS.

2. THE SSRC HAS ASSUMED THE "OBLIGATIONS OF BANNED BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS ORGANIZATIONS AND WILL CARRY OUT THEIR GOALS." WHILE THE SSRC CONTINUES TO REJECT PAC ENTICEMENTS TO JOIN IN TERRORIST TRAINING (HE WAS VERY SPECIFIC TO SAY IT WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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THE PAC WHO WERE PUSHING FOR GUERILLA WAR), HE DID SAY THE SSRC WAS IDENTIFYING MORE THESE DAYS WITH ANC OBJECTIVE OF SABATOGUE AGAINST ECONOMIC TARGETS. AS A MATTER OF FACT, HIS DESCRIPTION OF ALLEGED ANC PROPOSALS FOR PRESSING SOUTH AFRICA CORRESPONDED CLOSELY WITH THE EXPLANATION OF FUTURE SSRC STRATEGIES RECEIVED EARLIER. (REF A) THERE SEEMS TO BE LITTLE DOUBT THAT RECENT EVENTS HAVE ALIGNED GROUPS LIKE THE SSRC

MUCH MORE DIRECTLY WITH THE ANC.

3. THE COMMUNITY OF SOWETO WAS ONLY BEGINNING TO RECOVER FROM THE SHOCK OF THE DETENTIONS AND BANNINGS, ACCORDING TO MAZIBUKO, BUT THINGS ARE RETURNING TO NORMAL. HE SAID FEAR MORE THAN ANGER WAS THE RESULT OF THE GOVERNMENT CRACKDOWN AND THE DETENTIONS AND BANNINGS SEEM TO HAVE PRODUCED THE DESIRED (FROM SAG PERSPECTIVE) EFFECT OF CAUTIONING THE BLACK COMMUNITY AGAINST ENGAGING IN MILITANT POLITICAL ACTIVITY. HE REVEALED THE SUNDAY FOLLOWING OCTOBER 19 BANNINGS, REMNANTS OF THE BANNED GROUPS MET IN SOWETO AND FORMED "ACTION COMMITTEE" AND CHOSE THAMI MAZWAI AS INTERIM CHAIRMAN. HE WAS DETAINED SUBSEQUENTLY (REFTEL B) SHOWING THE POLICE HAVE NOT RELAXED THEIR VIGILANCE. PEOPLE ARE FEARFUL OF ENGAGING IN POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

4. THE MOST OUTRAGEOUS ACTION OF THE GOVERNMENT CRACKDOWN, ACCORDING TO THE PEOPLE OF SOWETO (MAZIBUKO SAYS), WAS THE CLOSING OF "THE WORLD." MAZIBUKO SAID THE BLACK COMMUNITY SAW THAT AS A DIRECT PERSONAL LOSS, AS WAS THE DETENTION OF EDITOR QOBOZA. HE SAID QOBOZA'S IMPRISONMENT ANGERED AND SADDENED THE COMMUNITY MORE THAN ANY OTHER FIGURE'S AND QOBOZA'S STATURE IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY HAS NEVER BEEN HIGHER THAN IT IS TODAY.

5. NOTE FOR GABORONE: MAZIBUKO AND A FEW OTHER SSRM MEMBERS  
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WILL ATTEMPT TO FILTER INTO BOTSWANA OVER NEXT FEW DAYS FOR TALKS WITH EXILED BPC LEADER NEGWEKHULU. HE SUGGESTED HE MIGHT VISIT EMBASSY. IF SO, WOULD APPRECIATE REPORT.

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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